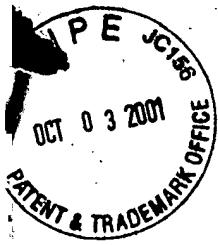


1272.7623 Div.I

PATENT APPLICATION



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
HIROSHI YOSHINO) Examiner: M. Nghiem
Application No.: 09/699,387) Group Art Unit: 2861
Filed: October 31, 2000)
For: INK JET APPARATUS AND)
WASTE LIQUID)
ABSORBING METHOD) September 28, 2001

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated March 28, 2001, the term for responding to which having been extended to September 28, 2001 by the accompanying Petition For Extension Of Time, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please amend the abstract as shown in the attached Appendix. The abstract, as pending in the subject application, reads as follows:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on

September 28, 2001

(Date of Deposit)

Dennis A. Duchene, Reg. No. 40,595

Name of Attorney for Applicant

D. A. DUCHENE

9/28/01

Signature

Date of Signature